

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 03855 041712Z

42

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 OPR-02 A-01 SY-04 SS-20 NSC-07

PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01 SP-03 /054 W

----- 012764

O R 041445Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7775

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3855

DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURY SECRETARY; BEIRUT PASS AMB AKINS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, EAID, SA

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM PRINCE FAHD WELCOMING VISIT OF

SECRETARY SIMON BUT REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT

WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

REF: A) STATE 138124; B) STATE 142043

1. EMBASSY TODAY (JULY 4) RECEIVED LETTER FROM PRINCE FAHD WELCOMING SECRETARY SIMON ON "GET ACQUAINTED" VISIT BUT REQUESTING IT NOT BE ASSOCIATED WITH SAUDI-US WORKING GROUP MEETINGS WHICH HE WISHES POSTPONED FOR AT LEAST A MONTH. (TEXT OF LETTER SENT SEPARATE LY).

2. PRINCE FAHD CITES PREOCCUPATION OF MOST HIGH OFFICIALS WITH THE PPPREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW BUDGET AS REASON FOR REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS. FAHD'S PRIVATE SECRETARY, MAHMOUD MALHAS, WHO DELIVERED THE LETTER SAID THAT TWENTY DAYS BEFORE

AND TWENTY DAYS AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BUDGET (JULY 20 THIS YEAR) IS THE BUSIEST TIME OF THE YEAR FOR SAUDI OFFICIALS. FAHD PERSONALLY DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE SUCCESS OF SAUDI-US ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DOES NOT WISH WORKING GROUP MEETINGS TO TAKE PLACE AT A TIME WHEN RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 03855 041712Z

ARE DISTRACTED BY OTHER MATTERS.

3. IN HIS LETTER FAHD SAYS HE STILL COUNTING ON SECRETARY SIMON'S COMING TO SAUDI ARABIA IN OCTOBER FOR HOLDING OF JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING.

4. BELIEVE WE HAVE LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO ACCEDE TO SAUDI REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF WORKING GROUP MEETINGS. WE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH MINSTATE FOR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS MOHAMMAD ABA AL KHAYL WHO HAS BEEN CHARGED BY FAHD WITH COORDINATION OF THE WORKING RROUPS TO DETERMINE SAUDI THINKING ON BEST TIME FOR RESCHEDULING OF MEETINGS. (EARLY SEPTEMBER BEFORE RAMADAN OR MID OCTOBER JUST AFTER RAMADAN WOULD PROBABLY SUIT SAUDIS BEST.)

5. DO NOT BELIEVE THAT POSTPONEMENT OF WORKING GROUP MEETINGS NEEDS TO AFFECT SECRETARY SIMON'S PLANS FOR VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. SAUDIS WILL

PUT TOGETHER A GOOD PROGRAM OF MEETINGS WITH KING AND FAHD IN TA'IF AND MINISTERS AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS IN JIDDA AND/OR RIYADH.

6. FAHD ASKS BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING SECRETARY SIMON'S PLANS.  
BIRD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, MINISTERIAL VISITS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** A) STATE 138124; B) STATE 142043  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LETTER FROM PRINCE FAHD WELCOMING VISIT OF SECRETARY SIMON BUT REQUESTING POSTPONEMENT  
**TAGS:** EIND, EAID, OVIP, SA, US, (SIMON, WILLIAM), (FAHD, PRINCE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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